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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, vides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (A1PA).

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Application Number	09/255,777
Filing Date	February 23, 1999
First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
Group Art Unit	2812
Examiner Name	Richard A. Booth
Attorney Docket Number	740756-1936

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

	a.		Previo	ously submitted				
		i.		Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).				
		ii.						
		iii.		Other				
	b.	×	Enclo	sed				
		i.	×	Preliminary Amendment/Reply iv	/. 🔲	Submission of Formal Drav	vings	
ŀ		ii.	_	Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) v.	×	Petition for Add'l TWO-m	onth Extension of Time	
ŀ		iii.	×	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)				
2.	Miscellaneous							
	a.		Suspe	ension of action on the above-identified applicati	ion is rec	uested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.	03(c) for a period of	
				months. (Period of suspension shall not exc	ceed 3 mo	nths; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17	(i) required)	
	b.		Other					
3.	Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.							
	a.	×		Director is hereby authorized to charge the follow			be required, or credit any	
				ayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380. A d	uplicate	copy is enclosed.		
		i.	_	RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)				
	ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)							
	iii. Other							
	b.		Check	c in the amount of \$ enclosed				
	c.		Paym	ent by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)				
	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED							
N	Name (Print/Type) Luan C./Do			Luan C./Do	Regis	tration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,434	
S	Signature			42	Date	December 1, 2003		
				CEPTIFICATE OF MAIL	LINGO	D TD ANSMISSION		
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]								
in ar	n en	velope	e addres	his correspondence is being deposited with the Ussed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Pate to the USPTO at, on _	nts, P.O.	Box 1450, Alexandria, Virg	icient postage for first class mail tinia 22313-1450, or being	
s	igna	ture:						
N	ame	e :						

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SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on December 1, 2003.

Signature:	
Name: Deborah Movahhedi	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop <u>RCE</u> Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed October 23, 2003, and a telephonic interview with the Examiner on October 29, 2003, please consider the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application: